United Nations

Daily Highlights

Department of Public Information • Central News Section • New York

Prepared by Central News

DH/1173
30 June 1992

TUESDAY HIGHLIGHTS

+ Security Council unanimously authorizes Secretary-General to strengthen United Nations Protection Force in Yugoslavia by addition of 60 military observers and 120 civilian police to perform new tasks in Croatia, as proposed in his recent report.

+ Security Council welcomes report of Secretary-General containing proposals for broad changes in United Nations peace and security role.

+ Addressing Organization of African Unity in Dakar, Senegal, yesterday, Secretary-General commends "remarkable" process of democratization that "has spread throughout much of Africa".

+ Secretary-General expresses concern at sniper attack on fact-finding mission to Moldova; calls for cooperation with and respect for United Nations personnel.

+ United Nations spokesman reports that advanced component of 240 Canadian troops from Belgrade are due to arrive in Sarajevo tomorrow.

+ Nine Member States have paid assessments in full and two in part for United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia -- approximately $160 million or 27 percent of the $600 million due tomorrow, 1 July.

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The Security Council today unanimously authorized the Secretary-General to strengthen the United Nations Protection Force in Yugoslavia (UNPROFOR) by the addition of up to 60 military observers and 120 civilian police to perform new tasks, as proposed in his recent report, dated 26 June.

The Secretary-General had recommended the establishment of a joint Commission under the chairmanship of UNPROFOR and consisting of representatives of the Croatian Government and the European Monitoring mission, "to oversee and monitor the process of the restoration of authority in the 'pink zones' by the Croatian Government". Those zones are certain

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areas of Croatia which are controlled by the Yugoslav People's Army (JNA) and populated largely by Serbs.

The Secretary-General also recommended that UNPROFOR assume its full responsibility in Sectors North and South "as soon as feasible", and simultaneously, undertake monitoring functions in the "pink zones" following the withdrawal of the Croatian Army and the JNA from those zones. The United Nations would then deploy a Civilian Police Force (UNCIVPOL) in the zones to supervise the local Croatian police force.

By its resolution 762 (1992) today, the Security Council approved the Secretary-General's report and urged all parties to honour their commitments to effect a complete cessation of hostilites and to implement the United Nations peace-keeping plan. It also urged the remaining units of the JNA, the Serb territorial defence forces in Croatia and others to comply strictly with their obligations under the United Nations peace-keeping plan, in particular with regard to the withdrawal and the disarming of all forces in accordance with the plan.

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The President of the Security Council, Paul Noterdaeme (Belgium), on behalf of the Council today welcomed the recent report of the Secretary-General on ways of strengthening and making more efficient "within the framework and provisions of the Charter" the capacity of the United Nations for preventive diplomacy, for peacemaking and for peace-keeping.

In a statement read out at a formal meeting of the Council this afternoon, the Council President said the Council "has noted a set of interesting proposals addressed to the various organs of the United Nations and to Member States and regional organizations" and that it "will examine in depth and with due priority the recommendations of the Secretary-General".

Mr. Noterdaeme reiterated the Council's readiness to "cooperate fully with the Secretary-General in the strengthening of the Organization in accordance with the provisions of the Charter".

The Secretary-General's report - entitled "An Agenda for Peace" - was issued last week in response to the first Summit Meeting of the Security Council at Headquarters on 31 January, at which Heads of State and Government of the 15 Council Members asked the Secretary-General to submit, by 1 July, recommendations on how to improve the United Nations capacity for preventive diplomacy, peacemaking and peace-keeping.

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Addressing the 28th Summit Meeting of the Organization of African Unity in Dakar, Senegal, yesterday, Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali commended the "remarkable" process of democratization that "has spread

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throughout much of Africa". He also paid special tribute to President Abdou Diouf of Senegal for his initiative in convening a conference in Dakar last month on democratic transition in Africa.

"The Dakar Declaration adopted at this conference underlines the importance Africa attaches to the democratic process and the determination of Africa leaders to continue to move forward in that direction", he said. He announced that next November a Regional Conference on Human Rights would be held in Tunisia, in cooperation with the United Nations, and he urged all Member States of the OAU to participate.

He went on to say that the United Nations was attaching particular importance to technical cooperation activities which provided assistance to Governments, at their request, in such areas as expert help with democratic elections, constitutional law and drafting national legislation affecting human rights. "Currently, the United Nations is involved in processing requests for or carrying out verification missions in over 14 African countries," he said.

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Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali has expressed concern over reports of a sniper attack yesterday in Bendery on members of the fact-finding mission which he dispatched to Moldova.

In a statement today, the Secretary-General said the mission, which had been sent with the backing of the Security Council, had "every right to expect the full cooperation and respect of all parties involved in the current dispute". The safety of United Nations personnel was a matter of grave preoccupation, particularly personnel discharging a mission of peace.

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A United Nations spokesman reported today that an advanced component of 240 Canadian forces would arrive in Sarajevo tomorrow, with the rest expected there on Thursday. The entire Canadian component would consist of about 850 to 900 soldiers.

There were currently 34 observers of the United Nations Protection Force in Yugoslavia at Sarajevo airport, as well as 10 French airport security experts. Forty French marines, also security experts, were due to arrive later today in Sarajevo in a convoy from Belgrade.

The Security Council yesterday authorized the Secretary-General to redeploy UNPROFOR troops from Croatia to Sarajevo airport to ensure the security and functioning of Sarajevo airport for the delivery of humanitarian supplies to the region.

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With one day to go to the deadline for paying contributions towards the $600 million assessed for the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC), nine Member States have paid their assessments in full and two have paid in part. Their payments total approximately $160 million - or 27 percent of the total assessed for UNTAC on 2 June 1992. According to the financial regulations of the Organization, contributions are payable in full within 30 days of receipt of the assessment letter from the Secretary-General.

The Member States which have paid in full are: Belgium, Botswana, Canada, Denmark, Finland, Ghana, Japan, Namibia and New Zealand. Colombia and the United States have made partial payments.

The financial situation of the Organization remains uncertain, according to a statement issued at Headquarters today, with the highest current monthly expenditure related to UNTAC.

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